

## THE GREAT NORTHWEST

Interesting Happenings in This, the World's Favored Section.

## STRANGE MEAL OF A FISH

The Hairbreadth Escape of a Logger—Whales in the Sound—A Railroad Man Drowned.

The Kootenai Herald reports that work is moving rapidly at Algoma and Granite, on the Northern Pacific. About 150 men are working at the former place and probably 500 at the latter. Most of the work is sublet as station work, and to a large number of small contractors. The heaviest work will be in the immediate vicinity of Granite. Beside the tunnel of 440 feet there will be an iron bridge to build across a slough near the approach of the tunnel, having a length of about 1,000 feet. Something of a town has sprung up at Granite.

Says the Idaho Recorder: The Union Pacific has just completed a bored well at Bisouka, on the Oregon Short Line, between Mountain Home and Nampa, that is 570 feet deep. The lava was found to be 515 feet deep, then came five feet of white flinty sand and pebbles, and below that hard black sand and rock. Seven other wells have been sunk, and this is the greatest depth of lava yet encountered. This well has 200 feet of water in it and does not rise higher. The eight wells range in depth from 230 to 570 feet, and afford water so pure that it does not coat the boilers in which it is used. Some of the wells have been pumped the last eight years and show no change in the supply of water.

Last Wednesday, says the Tekoa Globe, Acting Marshal Byron Truax ran in a couple of drunken swashes and shortly after detected and arrested the man who sold them the liquor. The prisoner, who gave his name as John Mitchell, has been loafing around town for several weeks and had been suspected before. After being arrested Francis, one of the Indians, was detained, but the other, Medore Bonia, was allowed to go home, where, Thursday night, he was given 200 lashes by order of Chief Selitice. Francis was given his liberty yesterday and no doubt will be soundly whipped to-day.

The testimony of the Indians was quite enough to convict Mitchell, had he not confessed. Friday Medore was placed under \$300 bonds to appear in the case as witness, and as the sureties were not forthcoming is now in jail.

The Tacoma Ledger relates that a rather strange as well as amusing incident happened on board the schooner Emma Clark while at sea recently on her way up from Rockport. They were well out at sea, where the water was blue and clear, and the wind very light, when one of the passengers discovered a large fish, which is known in those waters as linn, following close behind the boat. Several of the boys were soon leaning over the stern admiring the fish, when one of them accidentally dropped his watch overboard out of his overshirt pocket. It was a large, old-fashioned, Swiss silver watch, and when it hit the water it

glanced off sideways and darted on its voyage to the bottom of the sea, but the linn saw it, and as he is a fish that bites at anything that shines, he opened his mouth and swallowed it at one gulp. The surprised and chagrined young man says the watch had just been wound up and was good to tick away 24 hours at least. The fish seemed to enjoy the meal and followed leisurely after the boat for some time.

The Newport News says: Wednesday forenoon at about 10 o'clock T. Boyle, a trainman on the government jetties works, told Supt. John W. Graves that some of the piling at the extreme outer end of jetty had broken loose and ought to be fastened. Mr. Graves took some spikes and a mail and jumped on the next train and ran out to the scene of the break, which happened to be very near the spot where the men were putting the rock from the train. When about half the train had been unloaded and Mr. Graves was bending down at his work, Mr. Boyle, who was nearest him, saw an unusually high breaker coming which would go over them all even on top of the tramway. All the trainmen clung to cars or something to keep from being washed away, and when the breaker had passed Mr. Graves was not on the tramway, but was seen a moment later struggling in the surf some 50 or 60 feet away. A line was at once thrown to him but did not reach him and he went down. He came up once more near enough to the surface to be seen and then disappeared.

"There certainly are whales in the sound," said Prof. J. G. Swan of Port Townsend to a Press-Times reporter Friday evening at the Diller hotel, "but don't imagine every time a big fish is seen that a whale is in that vicinity. Many of the big fish that persons mistake for whales are the big black fins, or as they are scientifically called, the orcas. They are big fierce fellows from 25 to 30 feet long and can kill a whale in a very short time. They are seen in greatest numbers about Weidby island."

Says the Victoria Colonist: The loggers on Comichan Lake have commenced to "run" their logs, and some 15 expert river men have come from Seattle to manage the "run." One of these men had a hairbreadth escape from drowning yesterday. With two companions he came down the river on a log, going at the rate of eight or ten miles an hour. When the log struck the "jam" above the bridge all three leaped off safely, and waiting for the log to swing around, this man sprang on again and went gaily under the bridge as far as a second "jam" of logs below in the middle of the river. Here he repeated his second act successfully so far as getting off went, but unfortunately when he tried to join his log again he lost his footing and fell into the river. The current was very strong here and the water "boiling," so he had great difficulty in keeping himself above water. He managed to do so, however, but meantime was carried down the river with great force against some drift, in which he became entangled. He was by this time so weak that he could not free himself, and with difficulty managed to keep his head above water and to wave his hand to the anxious spectators further up the river. Some men quickly seized a canoe which happened to be lying on the south bank of the river, and went to the

rescue, and he was brought ashore exhausted and uninjured. He says this is the second time he has had such experience while following his dangerous calling.

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